



ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

editor: lou perry marzo 2005 membership: mary perry kentuckiana

Il Messaggio dal Segretaria :

While President Bernie is basking in that warm California sun, I shall attempt to share the information normally provided here.

IAA is on track in providing for another exciting year of events and activities and, of course, venues to eat. First, I'd like to acknowledge

our Goomba --- g^{oo}m' b^a. (*Slang* – an associate, especially a friend who acts as an adviser).

Anyway, Goomba Jim (Flitt), our new Social/Program Director, has scheduled social, chartable, educational, holiday, and recreational events and activities. NOW, it's up to us to fill in the blankswith our HELP via participation and volunteerism. See p.3 for the list on events. List those events you would like to be ACTIVE in and those you'd be interested in attending. There are plenty of opportunities, and all are fun and interesting. Call "the Goomba" soon at 693-3991(cell) or email jflitt@mfic.com. If you have any suggestions ----- like BATS, day or nite game? picnic menu? or location?; Christmas Gathering – activities? Location? Awards/Dinner – activities? Location? Etc, etc; let Jim know.

Your IAA Board at its February meeting decided: 1. to create an **IAA website** of "beauty and function"; and 2. to increase **dues** after a 20 year gap to help pay for activities and resources. On March 1, 2005 – dues for new members and returning members who have not paid yet will be \$15; and the annual dues on January 1, 2006 will be \$18. The IAA Board wants to make a commitment to youth (0 – 17) of a parent member by having a \$0 dues for the youth (note: not youth of grandparent member); and Lifetime dues will be \$125 on January 1, 2006. Also, adult, non-members will be charged a \$3 fee at each event (note: that's in addition to the event's cost)....save the hassle, join today.

The IAA Board has one (1) vacancyif you are interested in serving in that capacity, please call one of the IAA Board members....**CIAO/Lou**

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NEXT ACTIVITY
St. Joseph's Day Mass/Dinner
Saturday, March 19
(see p.3 for details)

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PASQUA - EASTER --The most important religious holiday in Italy mourning the death of Christ. It is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs after the 21st of March.....this year it's March 27, the earliest it can be. The vast majority of Italians go to church at some point during the day and most cities have special celebrations. Everything is shut down including stores, banks, public services and offices, businesses, newsstands and bars. The day after – **LUNEDI DOPO PASQUA** (Monday after Easter) - is another national holiday which celebrates the rising of Christ. It's just about as important of a religious holiday as Easter.

Buona Pasqua! Traditional Ceremonies

A huge explosion will be detonated Easter Sunday in front of the magnificent green– and white–marbled neogothic church in Florence's *centro storico*. Instead of running in fear though, thousands of spectators will cheer the noise and smoke, for they will be witnesses to the annual **Scoppio del Carro** - explosion of the cart.

For over 300 years the Easter celebration in Florence has included this ritual, during which an elaborate wagon, a structure built in 1679 and standing two to three stories high, is dragged through **Florence** behind a fleet of white oxen decorated in garlands. The pageantry ends in front of la Basilica di S. Maria del Fiore where Mass is held. During the midday service, a holy fire.

con't on p.2



HAPPY EASTER

Con't from p.1 **Buona Pasqua**

is stoked by ancient stone chips from the Holy Sepulcher, and the Archbishop lights a dove-shaped rocket which travels down a wire and collides with the cart in the square, setting off spectacular fireworks and explosions to the cheers of all. A big bang ensures a good harvest, and a parade in medieval costume follows.

Tradition and ritual play a strong role in Italian culture, especially during celebrations such as Easter. Some traditions are regional, for instance the “**art of Easter palm’s weaving**” (<http://italian.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?site=http://www.italiansrus.com/articles/palmweaving.htm>), in which decorative crosses and other designs are created from the palms received on Palm Sunday.

At **Vatican City** there are a series of solemn events that culminate in Easter Sunday Mass. In addition, the Monday following Easter is an official Italian holiday called *la Pasquetta*. In **Merano**: the *Corse Rusticane* are conducted, fascinating races with a special breed of horses famous for their blonde manes ridden by youths wearing the local costumes of their towns. Before the race, the participants parade through the streets of the town followed by a band and folk dance groups.

In **Barano d'Ischia**: on Easter Monday the 'Ndrezzata takes place—a dance which revives the fights against the Saracens. In **Carovigno**: on the Saturday before Easter is a procession dedicated to the Madonna del Belvedere during which the 'Nzeghe contest takes place: banners must be hurled as far as possible; and in **Enna**: religious rites take place in this Sicilian town. On Good Friday, the different religious confraternities gather around the main church and over 2,000 friars wearing ancient costumes silently parade through the streets of the city. On Easter Sunday, the Paci ceremony takes place: the statue of the Virgin and that of Jesus Christ are first taken to the main square and then into the church where they stay for a week.

Uova di Pasqua

Although Italians do not decorate hard-boiled eggs nor have chocolate bunnies or pastel marshmallow chicks, the biggest Easter displays in bars, pastry shops, supermarkets, and especially at chocolatiers are brightly wrapped *uova di Pasqua*—chocolate Easter eggs—in sizes that range from 10 grams (1/3 ounce) to 8 kilos (nearly 18 pounds). Most of them are made of milk chocolate in a mid-range, 10-ounce size by industrial chocolate makers.

Proverbio/Proverb

Moglie e buoi dei paesi tuoi

Choose a wife and an ox from your own town



BIRTHDAYS MARZO 2005

BUON COMPLEANNO !!

Last Name	First Name	Birthdate
Beatty	John	3/8
Moir	Fred	3/18
Moore	Thomas	3/3
Altobellis	Vincent	3/20
Altobellis	Salvatore	3/26
Camarata	Ann Marie	3/10
LATE	BIRTHDAY WISHES	
MOIR	ANN	FEB.

SING.....

"Tanti auguri a te,
Tanti auguri a te,
Tanti auguri a (name of person),
Tanti a auguri a TE!"

It is the same tune as our:
"Happy Birthday to You"

(Our database has these “paid” names only and the birthday provided; please if you see an omission, contact us).

LAKE ORTA

The area around Lake Orta has long been a favorite of tourists, thanks to the quiet beauty of the landscape, its fascinating history and its wealth of artistic treasures - principally Romanesque and Baroque architecture. Lake Orta lies to the west of Lake Maggiore, in the northern Italy. It is a minor star in the constellation of the sub - alpine lakes, but all the fascination and the history of the larger lakes seem to be concentrated in this short spa.

UPCOMING EVENTS....

Jim Vito Flitt, Program/Social Director

MARCH 19, Saturday...St. Joseph's Day – Mass (12 noon) and Pot-Luck Dinner (1pm); all at the Home of the Innocence.

- A – HHot Casserole
- I – NSalad
- O – TVegetable Dish
- U – ZDessert

For more information or questions, call IAA's # 1 Goomba, Jim Flitt – 693-3991 (cell) or his "Angelo Del Guardiano" – Emily at 423-5490.

MARCH 26 ---- Frankfort Ave EASTER PARADE (IAA entry)at fun time and event - 10am.

APRILevening at Clifton's (time/date – TBA).

MAY 31, Monday (Memorial Day) – V Foundation For Cancer Research – Bob Valvano **CELEBRITY BOCCE TOURNAMENT** on the Belvedere to assist the V Foundation on this charity event. To **HELP** call Bob Scorsolini at 964-2499 or email bscorsolini@aol.com. We are looking for someone or company to sponsor an IAA bocce team with \$2500 great advertising, visibility, V Foundation provides a very nice brief case filled with wonderful "stuff", and a fun time for sure.

JUNE ...BATS baseball game (date/time – TBA).

JULY.....IAA COOKOUT (date/time - TBA).

AUGUST – St. Joseph Picnic (IAA Booth).

SEPTEMBER 9-11, FESTA ITALIANA - Friday, Saturday, Sunday; St. James Church.

OCTOBER 10 (Monday)IAA Dinner/Awards.

NOVEMBER 16 (Wednesday) Elections/Dinner at Cliftons.

DECEMBER - IAA CHRISTMAS GATHERING

ITALIAN REGIONS

TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE...is something of an anomaly: a mixed German-Italian region, much of which has only been part of Italy since 1919. Before then Alto Adige was known as the South Tyrol and was part of Austria. At the end of World War I, Austria ceded South Tyrol to the Italians.

Luigi's Easter Words

Can you unscramble Luigi's Easter words?

Directions: Unscramble each word and Luigi will let you know how you did.....on p. 4.

BESTKA

TODECARE

HHRCCU

NOTBEN

TUHN

NUYNB

COOLCHET

BELLYJEANS

SGEG

DASRC



LUIGI'S EASTER TONGUE TWISTERS



Can you say these ten times fast??

1. Busy bunnies bring blue baskets.
2. Each Easter, Eddie eats eighty eggs.
3. Run, Red Rabbit, run!

ELLIS ISLAND

Ellis Island, now a 27.5-acre site located just minutes off the southern tip of Manhattan Island, New York, is likely to connect with more of the American population than any other spot in the country. It has been estimated that nearly half of all Americans today can trace their family history to at least one person who passed through the Port of New York at Ellis Island. Now, nearly a century since the peak years of immigration, Ellis Island is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the National Park Service. Browse the sections of this site below to locate additional information about Ellis Island.....

<http://www.ellisland.org/>

ANNUAL EVENTS IN ITALY

FESTA esta della DONNE - March 8 - National Holiday observed in all of Italy --- This is a day in which all good men bring bunches of Mimosa flowers to any special women in their lives. The flowers are bright yellow in color and leave pollen stains on whatever they touch. The origins of the custom goes back to a fire in the Triangle Shirt Factory in New York in 1911, in which 134 Italian women who were locked inside because they were refusing to participate in a strike, were tragically killed.

FATHER'S DAY in Italy - March 19, National Holiday observed in all of Italy --- Until a few years ago this day, the Feast of San Giuseppe, was a national holiday but has recently slid from its official status and become optional. San Giuseppe (Saint Joseph) was the husband of Mary and is the patron saint of the family although he also looks after orphans, unwed mothers, the needy and the homeless. In a carryover from ancient times, the day is still marked all over the peninsula by cleansing bonfires, and where life companions or relatives of fathers usually gift their beloved 'papa' (pronounced: pa-PAH) with typically masculine gifts that are accepted in a stiltedly proud manner.

SPRING GATHERING - Capracotta, Molise --- There is a unique celebration amongst cross-country skiers of every age that come from everywhere in the whole of Italy to meet on the snowy ski-runs in Prato Gentile and on the same day there's a national relay race to win the E. Angelaccio cup.

POLENTA FESTIVAL - March 6, Asti, Piemonte --- This gigantic festival is linked to the memory of the generous Marchese Rovere who saved some starving coppersmiths when they were trapped by a sudden snowstorm. He fed them polenta and frittata and, to this day, more than 180 years later, a mountain of polenta covered with a sauce of sausage of salame and an onion frittata weighing more than eighty pounds are cooked and served on the main piazza of the town. Allegorical floats go in parade with a public band and folk groups.

FESTA della CROCIFISSO - last Friday of March, Messina, Sicilia --- Crucifix is carried in solemn procession by thirty-three dark hooded worshippers called Babaluti.

La VECIA - Tambre, Belluno, VENETO --- It is a dirty and disgusting puppet that is burned in order to drive out all bad things done in the town.

Luigi's Easter Words (from p. 3)
Basket, Decorate, Church, Bonnet, Hunt, Bunny, Chocolate, Jellybeans, Eggs, Cards

ITALIAN LESSIONS – Dialect of Luigi

Vowels/Vocali

a = ah e = a i = e o = oh u = oo
(simple, but workable at this stage)

Nouns/Il Nome:

Genders ... **masculine** - usually ends in "o" or "e",
feminine usually ends in "a".

Italian Easter Vocabulary List

- [l'agnello](#) — lamb
- [Buona Pasqua](#) — Happy Easter
- [il coniglietto](#) — bunny rabbit
- [la crocifissione](#) — Crucifixion
- [la pace](#) — peace
- [la Pasquetta](#) — Easter Monday
- [la primavera](#) — spring
- [la resurrezione](#) — Resurrection
- [la settimana santa](#) — Holy Week
- [l'Ultima Cena](#) — Last Supper
- [le uova](#) — eggs
- [Venerdì Santo](#) — Holy Friday



Most children (74%) eat the ears of their chocolate bunny first. 13% eat the feet first, and 10% eat the tails first.

Remember

Italians also speak with their hands



Che sbadato! Sono stato supposto a boil duro le uova di Pasqua.

translation:

How could I have forgotten? I was supposed to hard boil the Easter eggs.